

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : E. Prats
 M. SIEIJN et al :
 Serial No.: 402,604 : Group: 1651
 Filed: October 22, 1999 :
 For: ISOLATION...BIOMASS :

600 Third Avenue
 New York N.Y. 10016
 April 24, 2001

AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of February 2, 2001, please
 amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add as the last page of the application the Abstract of
 the Disclosure submitted herewith on a separate sheet of paper.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (amended). A process for the isolation of crystalline
 carotenoid compound from microbial biomass comprising disrupting
 the microbial cell walls, separating cellular debris from the
 carotenoid-containing residue, washing one member of the group
 consisting of the microbial biomass, the disrupted cell mass and
 the carotenoid-containing ^{residue} with a solvent to remove lipid,
 suspending the obtained carotenoid crystals in water to float the
 crystals, ^{and remove biomass debris} recovering the crystals and, optionally, further
 purifying the crystals.

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